

**YWCA IS ON
A MISSION**

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

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For Immediate Release

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YWCA Delaware to Hold Witnessing Whiteness, May 2, 2019

Wilmington, DE: Research on race and group identity indicates that white people tend to think of themselves as *people*, not as having a *race*. This is an overlooked part of the “*how to have a difficult conversation about race*,” dilemma.

YWCA Delaware’s Racial and Social Justice program presents “Witnessing Whiteness”, a discussion about inherent privilege from skin color, regardless of an individual’s socio-economic status. The program takes place Thursday, May 2, 2019 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew, 719 N. Shipley Street, Wilmington, DE 19801. This is a free event. No registration is required.

A panel consisting of Rev. David Andrews, Rev. Canon Lloyd S. Casson, Dr. Chanelle Moore, Julia Byrem, and Gary Johnson will discuss ways in which the failure to acknowledge the benefits of whiteness affects institutional and structural racism. Participants from the first series of YWCA’s Dialogue to Action–Conversations about Racism will also be on hand to discuss their experiences.

Racial Justice Activist Julia Byrem says, “Identifying whiteness is crucial to addressing structural racism—one of the cornerstones of cultural oppression. We must work together to decenter whiteness and decolonize every aspect of our lives, beginning with open and courageous dialogue intended towards a completely new way of relating.”

About the upcoming discussion Witnessing Whiteness, she says, “This is a dialogue that holds the sparks of revolution.”

YWCA Delaware’s work continues. Those who missed the first series of Dialogue to Action can register online at www.ywcade.org/dialogue2action for Sussex County groups beginning in May and New Castle County groups beginning the week of September 29, 2019.

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Witnessing Whiteness is a Racial and Social Justice event of **Stand Against Racism** a signature campaign of YWCA USA to build community among those who work for racial justice and to raise awareness about the negative impact of institutional and structural racism in our communities.

This campaign is one part of our larger national strategy to fulfill our mission of eliminating racism.

YWCA Delaware is on a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, stand up for social justice, help families and strengthen communities. We improve the health & safety, economic mobility, family stability and civic participation of women and their families. Learn more at www.ywcade.org.

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